

## PRE

*The* PRESENT. An elliptical expression for the *present time*; the time now existing.

When he saw descend  
The son of God to judge them, terrify'd  
He fled; not hoping to escape, but shun  
The *present*; fearing guilty, what his wrath  
Might suddenly inflict. *Milton.*  
Men that set their hearts only upon the *present*, without  
looking forward into the end of things are struck at. *L'Estr.*  
Who, since their own short understandings reach  
No further than the *present*, think ev'n the wife,  
Speak what they think, and tell tales of themselves. *Rosw.*  
*At* PRESENT. [*a present*, Fr.] At the present time; now;  
elliptically, for the *present time*.  
The state is *at present* very sensible of the decay in their  
trade. *Addison.*

PRESENT. *n. f.* [*present*, Fr. from the verb.]  
1. A gift; a donative; something ceremoniously given.  
Plain Clarence!

I will send thy soul to heav'n,  
If heav'n will take the *present* at our hands. *Shakesp.*  
His dog to-morrow, by his master's command, he must  
carry for a *present* to his lady. *Shakesp.*  
He sent part of the rich spoil, with the admiral's ensign, as  
a *present* unto Solymann. *Knolles's Hist. of the Turks.*  
Say heav'nly muse, shall not thy sacred vein  
Afford a *present* to the infant God?  
Hast thou no verse, no hymn, no solemn strain,  
To welcome him to this his new abode?  
They that are to love inclin'd,  
Sway'd by chance, not choice or art  
To the first that's fair or kind,  
Make a *present* of their heart. *Waller.*  
Somewhat is sure design'd by fraud or force;  
Trust not their *present*s, nor admit the horse. *Dryden.*

2. A letter or mandate exhibited.  
Be it known to all men by these *present*s. *Shakesp.*  
TO PRESENT. *v. a.* [*presento*, low Lat. *presenter*, Fr. in all  
the senses.]

1. To place in the presence of a superior.  
On to the sacred hill  
They led him high applauded, and *present*  
Before the seat supreme. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. vi.*  
2. To exhibit to view or notice.  
He knows not what he says; and vain is it,  
That we *present* us to him. *Shakesp. King Lear.*

3. To offer; to exhibit.  
Thou therefore now advise,  
Or hear what to my mind first thoughts *present*. *Milton.*  
Now ev'ry leaf, and ev'ry moving breath  
*Presents* a foe, and ev'ry foe a death. *Denham.*  
Lecturides's memory is ever ready to offer to his mind  
something out of other men's writings or conversations, and  
is *presenting* him with the thoughts of other persons perpetually.  
*Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*

4. To give formally and ceremoniously.  
Folks in mudwall tenement,  
Affording pepper-corn for rent,  
*Present* a turkey or a hen  
To those might better spare them ten. *Prior.*

5. To put into the hands of another.  
So ladies in romance assist their knight,  
*Present* the spear, and arm him for the fight. *Dryden.*  
6. To favour with gifts. To *present*, in the sense of to give,  
has several structures: we say absolutely, to *present* a man, to  
give something to him. This is less in use. The common  
phrases are to *present* a gift to a man; or, to *present* the man  
with a gift.

Thou spendest thy time in waiting upon such a great one,  
and thy estate in *presenting* him; and, after all, half no other  
reward, but sometimes to be smiled upon, and always to be  
smiled at. *South's Sermons.*

He now *presents*, as ancient ladies do,  
That courted long, at length are forc'd to woo. *Dryden.*  
Octavia *presented* the poet, for his admirable elegy on her  
son Marcellus. *Dryden.*

Should I *present* thee with rare figur'd plate,  
O how thy rising heart would throb and beat. *Dryden.*

7. To prefer to ecclesiastical benefices.  
That he put these bishops in the places of the deceased by  
his own authority, is notoriously false; for the duke of Saxony  
always *presented*. *Atterbury.*

8. To offer openly.  
He was appointed admiral, and *presented* battle to the  
French navy, which they refused. *Hayward.*

9. To introduce by something exhibited to the view or notice.  
Not in use.  
Tell on, quoth she, the woful tragedy,  
The which these relics had *present* unto. *Spenser.*

10. To lay before a court of judicature, as an object of en-  
quiry.  
The grand juries were practised effectually with to *present*  
the said pamphlet, with all aggravating epithets. *Swift.*

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PRESENTANEUS. *adj.* [from *presentaneus*, Lat.] Ready;  
quick; immediate.

Some plagues partake of such malignity, that, like a *pre-*  
*sentaneus* poison, they enecate in two hours. *Harvey.*

PRESENTABLE. *adj.* [from *present*.] What may be presented.  
Incumbents of churches *presentable* cannot, by their sole  
act, grant their incumbencies to others; but may make  
leaves of the profits thereof. *Ayliffe's Paragon.*

PRESENTATION. *n. f.* [*presentation*, Fr. from *present*.]

1. The act of presenting.  
Prayers are sometimes a *presentation* of mere desires, as a  
mean of procuring desired effects at the hands of God. *Hooker.*  
2. The act of offering any one to an ecclesiastical benefice.  
He made effectual provision for recovery of advowsons and  
*presentations* to churches. *Hale.*  
What, shall the curate controul me? have not I the *pre-*  
*sentation*? *Gay.*

3. Exhibition.  
These *presentations* of fighting on the stage, are necessary  
to produce the effects of an heroic play. *Dryden.*

4. This word is misprinted for *pre cision*.  
Although in sundry animals, we deny not a kind of natural  
meteorology, or innate *presentation* both of wind and weather,  
yet that proceeding from sense, they cannot retain that ap-  
prehension after death. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

PRESENTATIVE. *adj.* [from *present*.] Such as that presenta-  
tions may be made of it.

Mrs. Gullston possessed of the improper parsonage of Bar-  
well, did procure from the king leave to annex the same to  
the vicarage, and to make it *presentative*, and gave them both  
to St. John's College in Oxon. *Spelman.*

PRESENTÉE. *n. f.* [from *présenté*, Fr.] One presented to a  
benefice.

Our laws make the ordinary a disturber, if he does not  
give institution upon the fitness of a person presented to him,  
or at least give notice to the patron of the disability of his  
*présentee*. *Ayliffe's Paragon.*

PRESENTER. *n. f.* [from *present*.] One that presents.

The thing was acceptable, but not the *presenter*. *L'Estr.*

PRESENTIAL. *adj.* [from *present*.] Supposing actual presence.

By union, I do not understand that which is local or *pre-*  
*sential*, because I consider God as omnipresent. *Norris.*

PRESENTIALITY. *n. f.* [from *présential*.] State of being  
present.

This eternal, indivisible act of his existence makes all  
futures actually present to him; and it is the *présentiality* of  
the object, which founds the unerring certainty of his know-  
ledge. *South's Sermons.*

TO PRESENTIATE. *v. a.* [from *présent*.] To make present.

The fancy may be to strong, as to *présentiate* upon one  
theatre, all that ever it took notice of in times past: the  
power of fancy, in *présentiating* any one thing that is past,  
being no less wonderful, than having that power, it should  
also acquire the perfection to *présentiate* them all. *Grav.*

PRESENTIFICK. *adj.* [*présens* and *facio*, Latin.] Making  
present. Not in use.

PRESENTIFICKLY. *adv.* [from *présentifick*.] In such a manner  
as to make present.

The whole evolution of times and ages, from everlasting to  
everlasting, is collectively and *présentifickly* represented to God  
at once, as if all things and actions were, at this very instant,  
really present and existent before him. *Moss.*

PRESENTLY. *adv.* [from *présent*.]

1. At present; at this time; now.  
The towns and forts you *présently* have, are still left unto  
you to be kept either with or without garrisons, so as you  
alter not the laws of the country. *Stancy.*

I hope we may presume, that a rare thing it is not in the  
church of God, even for that very word which is read to be  
*présently* their joys, and afterwards their study that hear it. *Hooker, b. v. f. 2.*

To speak of it as requir'd, would require very long dis-  
course; all I will *présently* say is this. *Hooker, b. i. f. 10.*  
Covetous ambition, thinking all too little which *présently*  
it hath, supposeth itself to stand in need of all which it hath  
not. *Raleigh's Essays.*

2. Immediately; soon after.  
Tell him, that no history can match his policies, and *pre-*  
*sently* the foe shall measure himself by himself. *South.*

PRESENTMENT. *n. f.* [from *présent*.]

1. The act of presenting.  
When comes your book forth?  
Upon the heels of my *présentment*. *Shakesp.*

2. Any thing presented or exhibited; representation.  
Thus I hurl

My dazzling spells into the spongy air,  
Of power to cheat the eye with bleat illusion,  
And give it false *présentments*, left the place  
And my quaint habits breed astonishment. *Milton.*

3. In law, *présentment* is a mere denunciation of the jurors them-  
selves or some other officer, as justice, constable, treasurer, fur-  
veyors, and, without any information, of an offence in-  
quiry. *Cowel.*

able in the court to which it is presented. *The*

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The grand juries were practised effectually with, to present  
the said pamphlet with all aggravating epithets, and their *pre-*  
*sentments* published for several weeks in all the news-papers. *Swift to Pope.*

PRESENTNESS. *n. f.* [from *présent*.] Presence of mind; quick-  
ness at emergencies.

Goring had a much better understanding, a much keener  
courage, and *présentness* of mind in danger. *Clarendon.*

PRESERVATION. *n. f.* [from *præservare*.] The act of preserv-  
ing; care to preserve; act of keeping from destruction, de-  
cay, or any ill.

Nature does require  
Her times of *præservation*, which, perforce,  
I give my tendance to. *Shakesp. Henry VIII.*

The eyes of the Lord are upon them that love him, he is  
their mighty protection, a *præservation* from stumbling, and  
a help from falling. *Eccly. xxxiv. 16.*

Ev'ry senseless thing, by nature's light,  
Doth *præservation* seek, destruction shun.  
Our allwise maker has put into man the uneasiness of hun-  
ger, thirst, and other natural desires, to determine their wills  
for the *præservation* of themselves, and the continuation of  
their species. *Locke.*

PRESERVATIVE. *n. f.* [*præservativus*, Fr. from *præservare*.] That  
which has the power of preserving; something preventive;  
something that confers security.

If we think that the church needeth not those ancient *præ-*  
*servatives*, which ages before us were glad to use, we de-  
ceive ourselves. *Hooker.*

It hath been anciently in use to wear tablets of arsenick,  
as *præservatives* against the plague; for that being poisons  
themselves, they draw the venom to them from the spirits. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*

Were there truth herein, it were the best *præservative* for  
princes, and persons exalted unto such fears. *Brown.*

Bodies kept clean, which use *præservatives*, are likely to  
escape infection. *Harvey.*

The most effectual *præservative* of our virtue, is to avoid  
the conversation of wicked men. *Rogers.*

Molly is an Egyptian plant, and was really made use of  
as a *præservative* against enchantment. *Brown's Notes on Ody.*

TO PRESERVE. *v. a.* [*præservo*, low Latin; *præservo*, Fr.]

1. To save; to defend from destruction or any evil; to keep.

The Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and *pre-*  
*serve* me unto his heavenly kingdom. *2 Tim. iv. 18.*

God sent me to *præserve* you a posterity, and save your  
lives. *Gen. xlv. 7.*

She shall lead me soberly in my doings, and *præserve* me in  
her power. *Wisdom ix. 11.*

He did too frequently gratify their unjustifiable designs, a  
guilt all men, who are obnoxious, are liable to, and can  
hardly *præserve* themselves from. *Clarendon.*

We can *præserve* unhurt our minds.

To be indifferent, which of two opinions is true, is the  
right temper of the mind, that *præserves* it from being im-  
pelled on, till it has done its best to find the truth. *Locke.*

Every petty prince in Germany must be intreated to *pre-*  
*serve* the queen of Great Britain upon her throne. *Swift.*

2. To season fruits and other vegetables with sugar and in other  
proper pickles: as, to *præserve* plums, walnuts, and cucumbers.

PRESERVE. *n. f.* [from the verb.] Fruit preserved whole in  
sugar.

All this is easily discerned in those fruits, which are  
brought in *præserves* unto us. *Brown.*

The fruit with the hulk, when tender and young, makes  
a good *præserve*. *Mortimer.*

PRESERVER. *n. f.* [from *præservare*.]

1. One who preserves; one who keeps from ruin or mischief.

Sit, my *præserver*, by thy patient's side. *Shakesp.*

To be always thinking, perhaps, is the privilege of the  
infinite author and *præservor* of things, who never slumbers  
nor sleeps; but is not competent to any finite being. *Locke.*

Andrew Doria has a statue erected to him, with the glo-  
rious title of deliverer of the commonwealth; and one of his  
family another, that calls him its *præservor*. *Addison.*

2. He who makes preserves of fruit.

TO PRESIDE. *v. n.* [from *præsideo*, Lat. *presider*, Fr.] To  
be set over; to have authority over.

Some o'er the publick magazines *præsideo*,  
And some are sent new forage to provide. *Dryden.*

O'er the plans

Of thriving peace, thy thoughtful fires *præsideo*. *Thomson.*

PRESIDENCY. *n. f.* [*presidence*, Fr. from *président*.] Superin-  
tendence.

What account can be given of the growth of plants from  
mechanical principles, moved without the *presidency* and guidance  
of some superior agent. *Roy on the Creation.*

PRESIDENT. *n. f.* [*præsidentis*, Lat. *president*, Fr.]

1. One placed with authority over others; one at the head of  
others.

As the *president* of my kingdom, will I  
Appear there for a man. *Shakesp. Ant. and Cleop.*

The tutor sits in the chair as *president* or moderator, to see  
that the rules of disputation be observed. *Watts.*

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2. Governour; prefect.  
How might those captive Israelites, under the oversight and  
government of Assyrian *présidents*, be able to leave the  
places they were to inhabit. *Breerewood on Languages.*

3. A tutelary power.  
This last complaint th' indulgent ears did pierce  
Of just Apollo, *président* of verse. *Waller.*

PRESIDENTSHIP. *n. f.* [from *président*.] The office and place  
of president.

When things came to trial of practice, their pastors learn-  
ing would be at all times of force to overpersuade simple men,  
who, knowing the time of their own *présidentship* to be but  
short, would always stand in fear of their ministers perpetual  
authority. *Hooker's Preface.*

PRESIDIAL. *adj.* [*præsidium*, Lat.] Relating to a garrison.

TO PRESS. *v. a.* [*presser*, Fr. *presser*, *pressus*, Lat.]

1. To squeeze; to crush.  
The grapes I *pressed* into Pharaoh's cup. *Gen. xl. 11.*  
Good measure *pressed* down, shaken together, and running  
over, shall men give into your bosom. *Luke vi. 38.*  
From sweet kernels *press'd*, *Milton.*

She tempers dulcet creams.  
I put pldgets of lint *pressed* out on the excoriation. *Wifem.*

The morning milk the peasants *press* at night,  
Their evening milk before the rising light. *Dryden.*

After *pressing* out of the colesed for oil in Lincolnshire,  
they burn the cakes to heat their ovens. *Mortimer.*

2. To distress; to crush with calamities.

Once or twice she heav'd the name of father  
Pantingly forth, as if it *press'd* her heart. *Shakesp.*

3. To constrain; to compel; to urge by necessity.

The experience of his goodness in her own deliverance,  
might cause her merciful disposition to take so much the more  
delight in saving others, whom the like necessity should  
*press*. *Hooker.*

The posts that rode upon mules and camels, went out,  
being hastened and *pressed* on by the king's commands. *Esther.*

I was *press'd* by his majesty's commands, to assist at the  
treaty. *Temple's Miscel.*

He gapes; and straight  
With hunger *press'd*, devours the pleasing bait. *Dryden.*

He *press'd* a letter upon me, within this hour, to deliver  
to you. *Dryden's Spanish Fryar.*

4. To drive by violence.

Come with words as medical as true,  
Honest as either, to purge him of that humour  
That *presses* him from sleep. *Shakesp.*

5. To affect strongly.

Paul was *pressed* in spirit, and testified to the Jews that  
Jesus was Christ. *Acts xviii. 5.*

Wickedness condemned by her own witness, and *pressed*  
with conscience, forceth grievous things. *Wisdom xvii. 11.*

6. To enforce; to inculcate with argument or importunity.

Be sure to *press* upon him every motive. *Addison.*

I am the more bold to *press* it upon you, because these ac-  
complishments fit more handsomely on persons of quality,  
than any other. *Felton on the Classics.*

Those who negotiated, took care to make demands im-  
possible to be complied with; and therefore might securely  
*press* every article, as if they were in earnest. *Swift.*

7. To urge; to bear strongly on.

Chymists I may *press* with arguments, drawn from some of  
the eminentest writers of their sect. *Boyle.*

8. To compress; to hug, as in embracing.

He *press'd* her matron lips  
With kisses pure. *Milton.*

She took her son, and *press'd*  
Th' illustrious infant to her fragrant breast. *Dryden.*

His easy heart receiv'd the guilty flame,  
And from that time he *press'd* her with his passion. *Smith.*

Leucothoe took,  
And *press'd* Palemon closer in her arms. *Pope.*

9. To act upon with weight.

The place thou *press'st* on thy mother earth,  
Is all thy empire now: now it contains thee. *Dryden.*

10. To make earnest. *Press* is here perhaps rather an adjective;  
*press*, Fr. or from *pressis* or *empressis*, Fr.

Let them be *pressed*, and ready to give succours to their  
confederates, as it ever was with the Romans; for if the  
confederate had leagues defensive with divers other states, and  
implored their aids, the Romans would ever be the formost.

*Bacon's Essays.*

*Press* for their country's honour and their king's,  
On their sharp beaks they whet their pointed things. *Dryden.*

11. To force into military service. This is properly *impress*.

Do but say to me what I should do,  
That in your knowledge may by me be done,  
And I am *press'd* into it. *Shakesp.*

For every man that Bolingbroke hath *press'd*  
To lift sharp steel against our golden crown,  
Heav'n for his Richard hath in store  
A glorious angel. *Shakesp. Richard II.*

From London by the king was I *press'd* forth. *Shakesp.*

20 I  
They